

# Memo



Date	April 26, 2012	From	Alex Khalfin
To	SJVRC Board Members	Department	Government Affairs
		Subject	Amtrak Update
		cc	Robert Eaton Jonathan Hutchison

## Message

Following is an update on issues related to the *San Joaquin*, along with general information about Amtrak.

### ***San Joaquin* Performance**

In January, *San Joaquin* ridership was 72,395 (+14.7%); passenger revenue was \$2,791,627 (+16.4%); endpoint OTP was 91.1%. In February, ridership was 84,624 (+13.5%); passenger revenue was \$2,485,206 (+6.0%); endpoint OTP was 90.5%. March ridership was 97,561 (+15.9%); passenger revenue was 3,332,248 (+18.1%); endpoint OTP was 85.8%.

### **FY13 Amtrak Legislative Request**

In February, Amtrak submitted a request to Congress, summarizing what Amtrak needs to operate. The House, Senate and the Administration will also submit their own Amtrak proposals for FY13.

For FY13 PRIIA authorizes \$2.233 billion for Amtrak. For FY13 Amtrak asked for \$2.167 billion, including \$450 million for operating, \$1.525 billion for capital improvements and \$212 million for debt service. Amtrak's request for less operating money than allowed by PRIIA reflects Amtrak's improving ticket revenue and illustrates that Amtrak is maximizing its efficiency.

For FY 2012 Congress appropriated \$1.418 billion for Amtrak, including \$466 million for operating, \$616 million for capital, and \$271 million for debt service.

### **eTicketing**

Last week, Amtrak started a pilot eTicketing program on two state-supported California rail corridors – the Capitol Corridor® and the San Joaquin®. Passengers can now make reservations and print their electronic tickets from home.

Initially, the pilot program will only issue eTickets for one-way and roundtrip travel on the Capitol Corridor and San Joaquin trains. eTicketed travel to or from connecting services will join this pilot program over the summer.

### **Surface Transportation Bill**

There is no movement on the bill.

### **FY12 High Speed Rail Funding**

There is no federal grant funding for high speed passenger rail for FY12.

### **Amtrak Governance**

Last month, President Obama nominated Yvonne B. Burke to a position of Director on Amtrak Board of Directors. Attached to this report, please find the White House press release which provides Ms. Burke's biography.

Congress has yet to confirm the appointment of Ms. Burke.